

2007 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 651

Offered January 10, 2007

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Requesting the Board of Education to work with the Prince William County School Division to determine the feasibility and cost effectiveness of utilizing alternative low-cost technologies to administer the Standards of Learning assessments. Report.

Patron—Lingamfelter

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the Standards of Learning (SOL) for Virginia public schools describe the Commonwealth's expectations for student learning and achievement in grades K-12 in English, mathematics, science, history and social science, technology, the fine arts, foreign language, health and physical education, and driver's education; and

WHEREAS, students in grades three through eight are required to take an SOL assessment in English, math, science, and history and social science; and

WHEREAS, to earn a standard or advanced studies diploma high school students are required to take at least six end-of-course SOL assessments during their time in high school; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Education estimates that over 3,000,000 SOL assessments will be taken during the 2006-2007 school year, costing approximately 29 million dollars in state funds; and

WHEREAS, new and emerging technologies may assist in the administration of the SOL assessments at a great savings to the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Board of Education be requested to work with the Prince William County School Division to determine the feasibility and cost effectiveness of utilizing alternative low-cost technologies to administer the Standards of Learning assessments. Such technologies may include, but not be limited to, hand-held, remote control devices that electronically record and transmit assessment data. Additionally, the Board of Education should consider a pilot program to implement such alternative devices at a high school within the Prince William County School Division.

The Board of Education shall submit to the Division of Legislative Automated Systems an executive summary and report of its progress in meeting the requests of this resolution no later than the first day of the 2008 Regular Session of the General Assembly. The executive summary and report shall be submitted for publication as a report document as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

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